

REMARKS

The Final Office Action mailed January 13, 2004, has been received and reviewed.

Claims 1, 2, 5 through 10, 12, 16, 18 through 26 and 33 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 10, 16, 18 and 19 stand rejected. Claims 21 through 26 and 33 are allowed. Claims 5 through 9, 12 and 20 have been objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but the indication of allowable subject matter in such claims is noted with appreciation.

Per this response, Applicants have cancelled claims 9, 19 and 20, amended claims 2, 16, 18, 22, 23 and 33, entered new claims 34 through 36 and respectfully request reconsideration of the application as amended herein.

Objections to the Drawings

The drawings are objected to by the Examiner as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the reference sign "26" as mentioned in the description. Applicant has amended FIG. 2 to include reference numeral 26 with appropriate lead line. Reconsideration and approval of the drawings is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Obviousness Rejections

Obviousness Rejection Based on French Patent 2,227,739 in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,890,727 to May

The Final Action states that "[c]laims 1, 2, 10, 16, 18 and 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over French Patent 2,227,739 in view of" – the sentence not being complete. (See Final Action, page 2). Based on the subsequent content of the Final Action, including references to teachings of "May," it is presumed that the above-listed claims are rejected as being obvious based on the French Patent 2,227,739 view of U.S. Patent 5,890,727 to May (already of record in the present case).

Claim 18 has been amended herein to include the subject matter which was previously set forth in dependent claims 19 and 20 (i.e., prior to cancellation of claims 19 and 20 herein) which subject matter was indicated by the Examiner as being allowable. It is noted that an additional amendment to claim 18 includes the deletion of language regarding the mount being "pivotably

secured" to the base. Rather, it is now stated that the mount is positionable with respect to the base between the recited positions, such language reading in conjunction with the subject matter incorporated from now cancelled claim 19 to define the relationship between the base and the mount. Additionally, in amending claim 18, it is noted that the language "a first lock" and "a second lock" as utilized in claims 19 and 20 has been changed to "a first locking structure" and "a second locking structure" respectively.

Applicant submits that claim 18, now including the subject matter identified by the Examiner as being allowable, is in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same. Applicant further submits that claims 1, 2, 10 and 16 are also allowable at least by virtue of their dependency from an allowable base claim.

Objections to Claims 5 through 9, 12 and 20/Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5 through 9, 12 and 20 stand objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but are indicated to contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if placed in appropriate independent form.

Applicant notes that the subject matter of claim 20, along with intervening claim 19, has been incorporated into independent claim 18 and that claims 19 and 20 have, accordingly, been cancelled. Applicant submits that claim 18 is in condition for allowance and, therefore, that claims 5 through 9 and 12, which depend from claim 18, are also in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 5 through 9 and 12.

ENTRY OF AMENDMENTS

The amendments to claims 2, 16 and 18 above should be entered by the Examiner because the amendments are supported by the as-filed specification and drawings and do not add any new matter to the application.

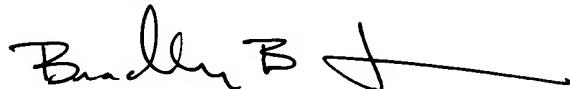
ENTRY OF NEW CLAIMS

New claims 34 through 36 above should be entered by the Examiner because the claims are supported by the as-filed specification and drawings and do not add any new matter to the application.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1, 2, 5 through 8, 10, 12, 16, 18, 21 through 26 and 33 through 36 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and an early notice thereof is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner determine that additional issues remain which might be resolved by a telephone conference, he is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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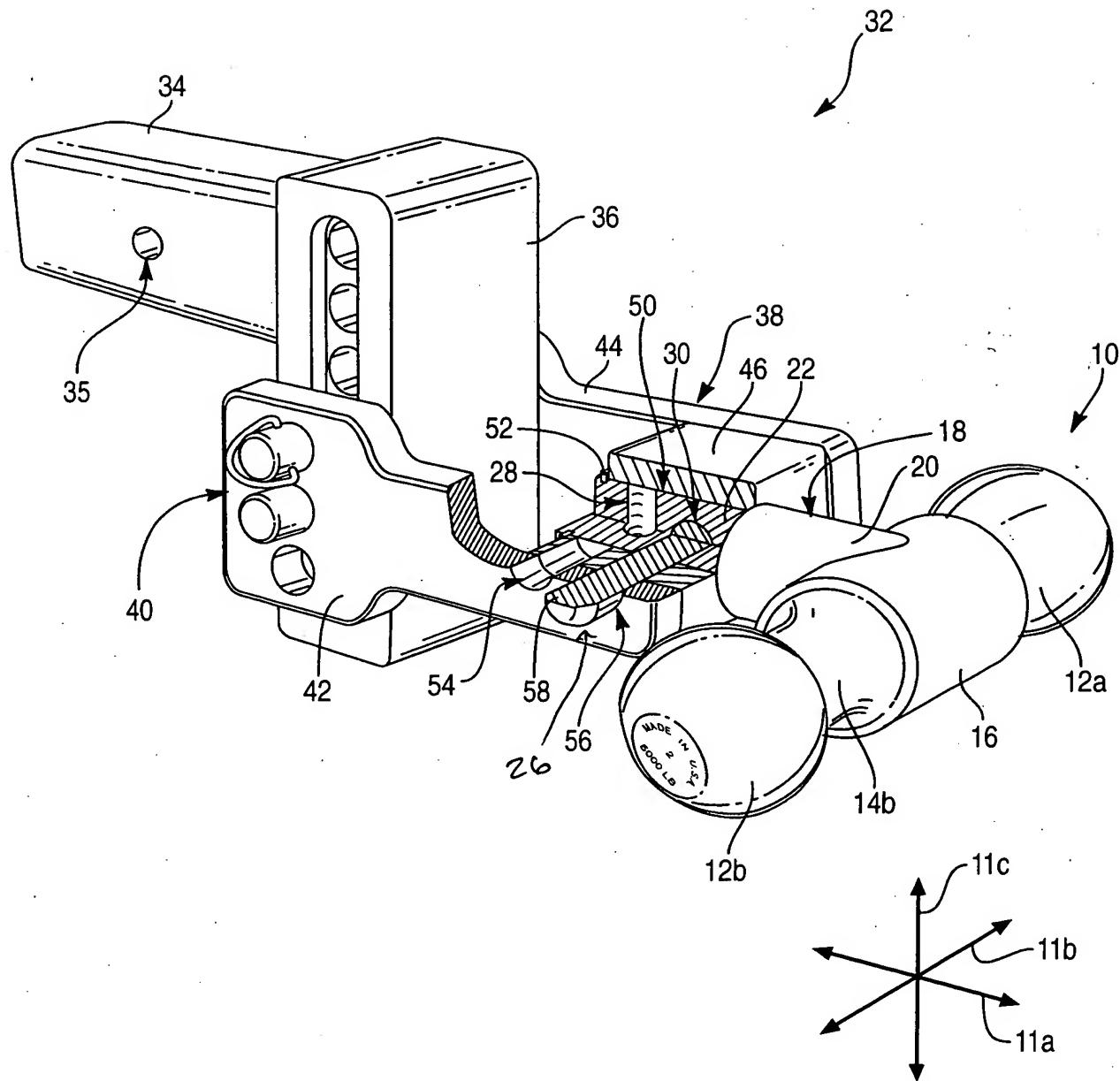


FIG. 2